

App. No. 10/825,740
Amendment dated July 5, 2005
In reply to Office Action dated April 7, 2005

Docket No. 1232-430US1

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 5, 7-14, 19 and 25 are pending in this application. Claims 5, 11, 19 and 25 are independent.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4 (CANCELLED):

5 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A communication apparatus comprising:

a setting means for setting independently unit configured to set a communication scheme in which a user determines whether or not an outgoing call a bulk communication is granted and whether or not an incoming call is granted in a sending communication and a receiving communication independently;

a communication means capable of communicating unit configured to conduct the bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via a plurality of communication channels; and

a control means for independently controlling unit configured to control the number of communication channels in the outgoing call sending communication and the incoming call receiving communication separately in accordance with the setting communication scheme set by said setting means unit enabling the user to control the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently.

6 (CANCELLED):

7 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said

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communication ~~means~~ unit can communicate with a plurality of communication partners, and
said setting ~~means~~ unit can set the number of channels used when a communication with another
communication partner is to be started while communicating using the communication channels,
the number of which is controlled by said control ~~means~~ unit.

8 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said setting ~~means~~
unit sets whether or not a communication with another communication partner is granted.

9 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said
communication apparatus can connect a plurality of external communication apparatuses, and
said setting ~~means~~ unit can set whether or not a communication via the plurality
of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of external communication
apparatuses.

10 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said
communication ~~means~~ unit can communicate using a plurality of communication schemes, and
said setting ~~means~~ unit can set whether or not a communication via the plurality
of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of communication schemes.

11 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A communication apparatus comprising:
~~a communication means capable of communicating~~ unit configured to conduct a
bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via a plurality of
communication channels;

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a setting unit configured to set a communication scheme in which a user determines whether or not the bulk communication is granted in a sending communication and a receiving communication independently;

a detection means for detecting an incoming call or an outgoing call while said communication means communicates via the plurality of communication channels unit configured to detect whether the bulk communication is requested in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently; and

setting means for independently setting a control unit configured to control the number of communication channels granted for the communication with the partner in a case wherein said detection means detects the incoming call, and a case wherein said detection means detects the outgoing call, respectively in the sending communication and the receiving communication according to detection result from said detection unit thereby granting or denying the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently according to the communication scheme set by said setting unit.

12 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means unit sets whether or not the incoming call sending communication is accepted when said detection means unit detects the incoming call sending communication, and whether or not the outgoing call receiving communication is accepted when said detection means unit detects the outgoing call receiving communication.

13 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said communication apparatus can connect a plurality of external communication apparatuses, and

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said setting ~~means~~ unit can set whether or not a communication via the plurality of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of external communication apparatuses.

14 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said communication ~~means~~ unit can communicate using a plurality of communication schemes, and

said setting ~~means~~ unit can also set whether or not a communication via the plurality of communication channels is granted in each of the plurality of communication schemes.

15-18 (CANCELLED):

19 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A method of controlling a communication apparatus comprising:

a setting step of setting ~~independently~~ a communication scheme in which a user determines whether or not an outgoing call a bulk communication is granted and whether or not an incoming call is granted in a sending communication and a receiving communication independently;

a communication step of ~~communicating~~ conducting the bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via the plurality of communication channels; and

a control step of ~~independently~~ controlling the number of communication channels in the ~~outgoing call~~ sending communication and the ~~incoming call~~ receiving communication separately in accordance with the setting communication scheme set in the

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setting step enabling the user to control the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently.

20-24 (CANCELLED):

25 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A method of controlling a communication apparatus comprising:

a communication step of ~~communicating~~ conducting a bulk communication and a non-bulk communication with a partner via a plurality of communication channels;

a setting step of setting a communication scheme in which a user determines whether or not the bulk communication is granted in a sending communication and a receiving communication independently;

a detection step of detecting an incoming call or an outgoing call while the communication via the plurality of communication channels is made in the communication step whether the bulk communication is requested in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently; and

a setting control step of independently setting controlling the number of communication channels granted for the communication with the partner in a case wherein the incoming call is detected in the detection step, and a case wherein the outgoing call is detected in the detection step, respectively in the sending communication and the receiving communication according to detection result from said detection step thereby granting or denying the bulk communication in the sending communication and the receiving communication independently according to the communication scheme set by said setting step.

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26-31 (CANCELLED):